

## Reagan separates elections, Lebanon

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Wednesday he would not allow political considerations in the 1984 U.S. election year to influence his commitment to the American peace-keeping role in Lebanon. At a news conference shortly after the U.S. battleship New Jersey pounded the Lebanese coast, he dismissed press reports that he would withdraw the contingent of 1,800 Marines from Beirut ahead of next summer's political party conventions. "No decision about going to make on anything of this kind is related to the election or the conventions or anything political," Mr. Reagan said. Mr. Reagan will announce his decision to seek a second term of Jan. 29, the Washington Post reported Wednesday. The Post said the Republican president would make the announcement in a nationally televised speech from the White House.

## Hamad briefed on Alia airport

AMMAN (J.T.) — Bahraini Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa Wednesday visited the Queen Alia International Airport. Sheikh Hamad, toured the airport's various sections and inspected their functions and activities. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Sheikh Hamad was briefed on the airport's services by Mahmoud Balq, director general of the Civil Aviation Authority. Petra added.

## Venue may change for Lebanon talks

GENEVA (R) — Lebanese national reconciliation talks, when reconvened in neutral Switzerland, are likely to be held in Montreux rather than Geneva where the first session took place last month, a Swiss Foreign Ministry spokesman in Bern said Wednesday. But no date has yet been fixed for the resumption of the conference of leaders of nine Lebanese factions, whose initial gathering lasted five days, the spokesman said. He was commenting on a Swiss newspaper report that the talks would resume in Montreux next Monday.

## Trudeau meets Reagan today

TORONTO (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau will take his round-the-world peace crusade to a superpower for the first time Thursday when he flies to Washington for talks with President Reagan. Seeking support for his disarmament campaign, he has visited six West European capitals as well as Tokyo, Peking and the Commonwealth summit in New Delhi in the past two months.

## Gromyko expects return of detente

HELSINKI (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko was quoted Wednesday as saying he expected next month's European disarmament conference in Stockholm to provide a new opening which would eventually lead to the renewal of detente. Several Finnish newspapers quoted Mr. Gromyko as telling this to Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen, who is on a visit to Moscow.

## American executed for 1979 murder

ANGOLA, Louisiana (R) — A 31-year-old American was executed in Louisiana state penitentiary early Wednesday for murdering a supermarket guard during a 1979 robbery, a prison spokeswoman said. Robert Williams was the 10th person sent to the electric chair in the United States since the supreme court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

## Iran tries 6 more 'Communists'

TEHRAN (R) — Six more men accused of belonging to the outlawed Communist Tudeh Party's secret military wing went on trial in Iran Wednesday charged with spying and aiming to topple the Islamic republic, the national news agency IRNA said.

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# Jordan Times

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## Massive New Jersey guns brought into action U.S. battleships open fire on Syrians again

BEIRUT (Agencies) — American warships Wednesday shelled Syrian positions in the mountains northeast of Beirut for the second successive day, and Damascus said Syria would respond with force to attacks on its positions in Lebanon.

For the first time, the U.S. battleship New Jersey was brought into action when it fired its massive 16-inch guns at Syrian positions. A U.S. Marine spokesman in Beirut said the 45,000-ton battleship, sailing off the Lebanese coast, opened fire in "defence of a tactical air reconnaissance mission."

The New Jersey's nine 16-inch guns can hurl one-ton shells at a distance of 32 kilometres. The spokesman was unable to say how many rounds were fired by the New Jersey, the world's last active battleship, or how long the bombardment lasted.

No other warships were known to have joined in the bombardment, the second shelling of Syrian anti-aircraft positions in the mountains in two days, he added.

But state-run television said three U.S. warships opened fire Wednesday on Syrian positions. The New Jersey arrived off Lebanon in late September and has lately been clearly visible cruising off Beirut. But its big guns had not previously been brought into action.

On Tuesday, the guided missile destroyer Tattnell and the cruiser Ticonderoga fired at least 35 five-inch shells after two F-14 aircraft from the carrier Independence were fired on.

A Reuters correspondent who drove past Syrian positions in the mountains Wednesday said he saw clear signs that the naval bombardment was accurate. Fresh craters were clearly visible as close as a metre from anti-aircraft guns dug deep into the ground.

The correspondent was unable to get close enough to see if there had been any direct hits. Syrian anti-aircraft gunners in camouflage uniforms could be seen at the alert in firing positions in a wood beside the road.

Tuesday's naval bombardment was the first since Dec. 4, when two U.S. warplanes were shot down in a 28-plane bombing raid on Syrian positions.

State-run Damascus Radio said Wednesday that Syria would respond with force to U.S. attacks against its positions in Lebanon. "Syria will respond to force by force and will not be intimidated by warplanes or gun shells and is capable of inflicting harm on the aggressors more than they expect," it said in a commentary.

Commenting on the U.S. shelling of Syrian positions Tuesday, the radio said: "This new aggression comes within the context of U.S. military escalation against Syria."

"If the Americans hope to score a victory through the naval force after the failure of the air force, they will discover that the Syrian position cannot be changed," it said.

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## Beirut clashes

Wednesday's bombardments came as anti-government Druze and Shi'ite forces exchanged shellfire with the Lebanese army in Beirut's southern suburbs and areas further south of the city. Two soldiers and a civilian were killed, security sources said.

Lebanese sources said shells fell close to the headquarters of Britain's 110-man contingent to the Beirut multinational force, but a British spokesman said: "It's not close enough to worry us. We're continuing as normal."

## Syrian response

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His Majesty King Hussein and French President Francois Mitterrand outside the Elysee Palace before their talks Tuesday (A.P. wirephoto)

## Rumsfeld briefs Prince Hassan on results of talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday conferred with U.S. President Reagan's special Middle East envoy, Donald Rumsfeld, who briefed him on the outcome of his recent tour of Middle East and Arab Gulf countries, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

It was Mr. Rumsfeld's second visit to Jordan since his appointment last month.

Mr. Rumsfeld also met with Lebanese opposition Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, who is currently in Amman, Reuters said.

Mr. Junblatt discussed with Mr. Rumsfeld the situation in Lebanon and national reconciliation efforts launched after a Geneva meeting last month.

## U.S. envoy in Syria

Mr. Rumsfeld, who arrived from the Gulf earlier Wednesday, later left Amman and Reuters reported his arrival in Damascus. Syrian news agency SANA said Mr. Rumsfeld was met at Damascus airport by a protocol official from the Foreign Ministry. Informal sources said he was expected to meet Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

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## 'Egypt has regional security role'

CAIRO (R) — A senior Egyptian official was quoted Wednesday as saying that Egypt had a role in safeguarding security in the region beyond its geographical borders. "Egypt's role in safeguarding security in the area extends beyond its borders," Osama Baz, top foreign policy adviser to President Hosni Mubarak, was quoted as saying by the official Middle East News Agency (MENA). "We are evaluating the situation... but military intervention will only complicate the situation further," he said, answering a question about a possible Egyptian role to reduce tension in the region. Mr. Baz, speaking after a meeting of Egypt's highest policy-making body to discuss Monday's bombings in Kuwait, said the attacks were a "dangerous development and should not occur in any other part of the Gulf." Earlier Wednesday, Mr. Mubarak condemned the attacks in Kuwait and said violence would not help the search for Middle East peace.

## King, Cheysson review Mideast, bilateral ties

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday held talks with French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported from Paris.

The talks covered latest Middle East developments and Jordanian-French relations. Petra said.

King Hussein and Mr. Cheysson also reviewed France's role in efforts for peace in the Middle East, the agency added.

The King's meeting with the French minister was attended by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and Jordanian Ambassador to France Hani Khasawneh, Petra said.

King Hussein arrived in Paris Monday and on Tuesday he discussed with President Francois Mitterrand latest developments in the Middle East and bilateral relations.

Later on Wednesday, King Hussein received at his residence in Paris French Defence Minister Charles Hernu and discussed Jordanian-French relations. Petra said.

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## Iraqi missiles hit Iranian towns in retaliation to Kuwait bombings

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraq launched missile attacks on five southwest Iranian towns Wednesday, and first reports from Iran said 17 people had been killed and more than 200 wounded.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said the raids were against "chosen targets" in the towns of Dezful, Andimeshk, Behbahan, Nahavand and Ramhormoz and had been carried out by the Iraqi air force and ground-to-ground missile forces.

In Tehran, the national news agency IRNA said the attacks were launched at 5.37 p.m. (1407 GMT).

The Iraqi spokesman quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the raids were in retaliation against "crimes against brotherly countries" — a reference to Monday's bombings in Kuwait for which Iraq has blamed Iran.

Tehran has denied any involvement in the bomb attacks against the U.S. and French embassies and other targets in Kuwait, which backs Iraq in its 39-month-old war with Iran.

The Iraqi spokesman said Wednesday's attacks were also in retaliation for Iranian shelling of Iraqi border towns and rejection of all initiatives to settle the conflict peacefully.

IRNA said Wednesday's Iraqi attacks killed 10 people in Ramhormoz, six in Andimeshk and one person in Behbahan. It said 100 people were wounded in Andimeshk, where efforts were continuing to rescue victims buried under rubble.

After Monday's bombings in Kuwait, whose targets included the U.S. and French embassies, Kuwait airport and other Kuwaiti installations, Iraq blamed Iran and warned it would retaliate.

At least six people were killed in the bombings and more than 60 injured.

Kuwait borders on Iraq and, like the other Arab Gulf states, has supported the Iraqis in their 39-month-old Gulf war against Iran.

Working mostly in the nearby ambassador's residence.

The embassy has not brought in any reinforcements for the six U.S. Marines responsible for its internal security, the diplomats said.

They said that at the time of Monday's attack, only one Marine was on duty inside the entrance of the chancery and that the Kuwaiti security guards at the gate of the compound did not fire at the bomb truck as it crashed through.

'Lone attacker'

The diplomats said eyewitnesses were convinced the driver was alone in the truck, whose explosives and gas cylinders devastated the embassy's three-storey administration building.

"If there was anyone else in the truck, he must have been lying flat. No-one saw a second person and it seems highly unlikely there was," one diplomat told Reuters.

As a result of the attack on the U.S. embassy, and half a dozen other bombs in Kuwait around the same time, the Kuwaiti authorities have begun a sweep against illegal residents in the Gulf state, reliable sources said Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the authorities Wednesday lifted travel restrictions imposed on Middle East nationals after the blasts, official sources said.

In the aftermath of the six explosions the authorities banned Palestinians, Iraqis, Iranians, Jordanians, Lebanese and Syrians from leaving the country. Tight security checks were also imposed on people entering Kuwait.

## 2 Kuwait blast victims unidentified

KUWAIT (R) — Two of the five victims of Monday's bomb attack on the U.S. embassy here have still not been identified but one is believed to be the driver of the explosive-laden truck, diplomats said Wednesday.

All American staff at the seafront embassy have been accounted for, the diplomats said.

It could not be ruled out that the remaining victim was an American visitor to the embassy but it was thought more likely that he was a local construction worker employed in the embassy compound, they added.

The three identified dead were all non-American employees of the embassy, the diplomats said.

The main embassy buildings were still unusable after the blasts but the embassy reopened for business Wednesday with staffers

working mostly in the nearby ambassador's residence.

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## Evren pledges backing for government

ANKARA (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren said Wednesday he would support the government of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, provided it worked for the good of the country.

General Evren, who led the 1980 military coup, told cabinet ministers he would not hesitate to speak out loud if he felt the government was "looking at things from a party point of view."

Mr. Ozal, who led the Conservative Motherland Party to victory in last month's general elections, became Turkey's first prime minister since the coup Tuesday when Gen. Evren ratified his cabinet list.

He took over from retired Admiral Bulend Ulusu, was appointed by the military rulers shortly after the coup.

Gen. Evren told the ministers he would support the government "as long as it did things for the good of the country."

"Although you are lucky in the sense that you are not faced with the pre-coup days' terrorist activities and you are now living in peace in this country, there are several economic problems you have to tackle," he said.

The new government's programme will be read in parliament on Monday and after a debate it is expected to face a vote of confidence on Dec. 23.

British press condemns Turkey, page 2

assinated President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Begum Khaleda Zia, widow of another slain president, Ziaur Rahman.

Officials said a total of 200 people were held following disturbances last month in which six people died and about 500 injured, but opposition leaders put the number of arrests at 900.

Lt-Gen. Ershad reimposed restrictions on political activity after the unrest and placed Dhaka and the country's main port of Chittagong under curfew.

## Bangladesh releases political detainees

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's military ruler Hossain Mohammad Ershad Wednesday released about 200 political detainees in a bid to hold talks with his opponents early next month.

Government officials said about 120 people were freed from prison in Dhaka and 80 more in other parts of the country.

Invitations to opposition leaders for formal talks with Lieutenant-General Ershad will be issued next week and the discussions are expected to start in the first week of next month, they added.

The move follows Lt-Gen. Ershad's initiative launched at the weekend to set up talks with his opponents to hasten the return to democratic government after 19 months of military rule.

The freed detainees include Professor Muzaffer Ahmad, leader of the National Awami Party, the officials added.

Earlier, Lt-Gen Ershad ordered the release of four women politicians, including Sheikh Hasina Wazed, daughter of assassinated President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Begum Khaleda Zia, widow of another slain president, Ziaur Rahman.

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## Spanish Communist congress opened

MADRID (R) — Deep divisions inside Spain's Communist Party (PCE) surfaced at the opening of a five-day national congress here Tuesday as delegates split their votes in the first tests of strength.

A total of 415 of the 809 delegates voted for the presiding committee proposed by Secretary General Gerardo Iglesias with 42 against and 284 abstentions. The number of abstentions was even higher in a second procedural vote.

"It's going to be a very close call," party spokesman Andreu Claret told reporters.

The congress, meeting to work out a strategy to revive the fortunes of the once powerful Spanish Party, is broadly divided between supporters of Mr. Iglesias, who is committed to greater internal democracy and Eurocommunism, and backers of former leader Santiago Carrillo who favours a harder line.

Mr. Iglesias, 38, who took over the leadership from Mr. Carrillo a year ago following an electoral rout in which the party lost a million votes, defended his open policy and appealed for unity.

He said that no one could seriously question the Eurocommunist doctrine of independence from the Soviet Union but, in what was seen as a significant gesture to militants who argue that the party has strayed too far from Moscow, he made no mention of Afghanistan or Poland.

Some LDP factions remain outraged by the scandal. One of the faction leaders, former Premier Takeo Miki, has threatened to work against Mr. Nakasone if the LDP polls less than the stable level of 270 seats.

Both polls agreed that the overall opposition looked like increasing its strength, especially the Buddhist-based Komeito Party whose "clean government" campaign seems to be attracting support from voters disenchanted by the Lockheed bribery scandal.

Former Prime Minister Kakeui Tanaka was convicted last October of accepting a \$2 million bribe from the U.S. Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

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## Nakasone's party may end up with lower majority

TOKYO (R) — Opinion polls Wednesday showed the government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakas



## MIDDLE EAST

# U.S. draws up list of targets in Lebanon for potential retaliation

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. military strategists have drawn up a list of targets in Lebanon for potential retaliatory strikes in case of attacks on American forces there, Defence Department officials said.

They said Tuesday's retaliation by naval gunfire for missile and anti-aircraft attacks on U.S. reconnaissance planes was an example of this "retaliatory planning." The officials said the list of potential targets included Syrian SAM (surface-to-air) missile sites and other firing positions, concentrations of hostile forces and other militarily significant sites.

The targets have been drawn up over the past several months from regular F-14 reconnaissance flights.

In Tuesday's retaliation, the guided-missile cruiser Ticonderoga and the guided-missile destroyer Tattall fired 35 five-inch shells on the hills east of Beirut, about 11 kilometres north of Hammana, the officials said.

Pentagon officials said the two F-14s fired on returned safely to the carrier Independence. They did not say whether there was any damage to the missile and anti-aircraft sites.

Officials said the aircraft were attacked from the same Syrian-occupied area from which an attack was made on U.S. F-14s on Dec. 3.

The United States responded to that attack the following day with a raid by 28 A-6 and A-7 attack planes.

Pentagon officials said firing positions were hit in that retaliatory strike and called it a success. But two U.S. planes were lost, one pilot killed and one captured by Syrian forces. A third crew member was rescued.

Officials said the policy of listing potential retaliatory sites was standard procedure and the chief purpose of the almost daily F-14 reconnaissance flights.

They said the Pentagon had no priority on targets, leaving the choice to the commander of U.S. forces in Lebanon on the basis of the attack on the U.S. forces.

## 7 wounded in bomb blasts at Beirut churches

BEIRUT (R) — Seven people were wounded when two bombs exploded in West Beirut in the first attacks against Christian churches.

The first bomb went off on the steps of the Catholic Church of Saint Mary and Paul, blowing out a stained glass window and wrecking pews, and the other at a Syrian church in the Musaitbeh district of Beirut.

## Korean leader raps attacks in Kuwait

SEOUL (R) — South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan has condemned the series of bomb blasts in Kuwait and called on the international community to help prevent a recurrence of international terrorism, a presidential spokesman said.

## PLO claims Libya sent Africans to battle it

HARARE (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has captured Africans who were sponsored by Libya to fight against it in Lebanon, a senior PLO official said Wednesday.

Salmane Elherfi, adviser on African affairs to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, told Reuters the PLO last month captured about 5,000 African troops assisting Palestinians who are fighting Mr. Arafat in the northern Lebanese port city of Tripoli.

He said the troops were mainly from Chad and were recruited by Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi, who told them they were being sent to Lebanon to fight Israeli occupation forces. He added the captured men would soon be sent back to their countries.

Mr. Elherfi is in Zimbabwe to brief Prime Minister Robert Mugabe on the Middle East conflict and will leave Thursday for Tanzania to meet President Julius Nyerere.

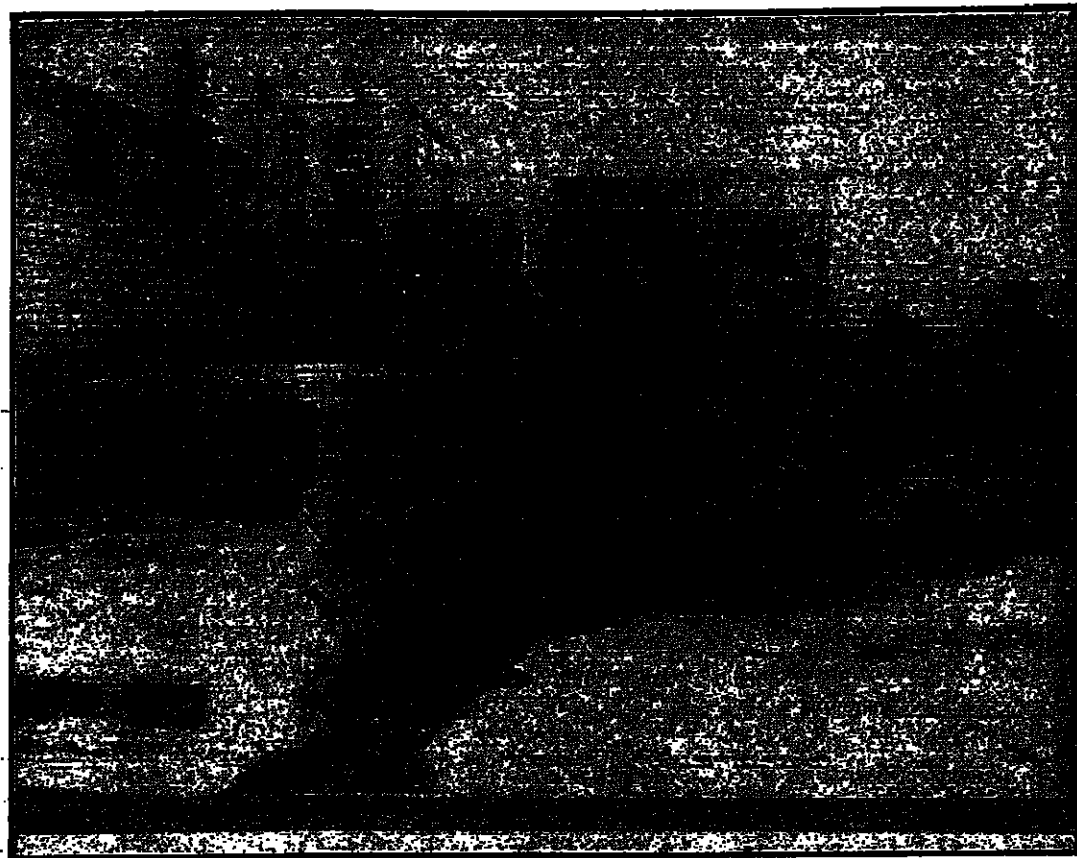
## El Al halts unholy flights

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's national airline El Al Wednesday gave in to pressure from ultra-orthodox rabbis who demanded pilots stop flying over occupied Jerusalem's temple Mount because overflying the holy site contravenes Jewish religious law.

An airline spokesman said pilots who occasionally veered from

their usual flight paths to give passengers a better view of the site had been told to stay strictly on course.

Orthodox rabbis complained the overflights contravened a religious law which bans Jews from crossing the mount — sacred as site of the Biblical temple of King Solomon.



This is the scene following the explosion which wrecked the French embassy in Kuwait on Monday morning (A.P. wirephoto)

## Oil from Greek tanker threatens Gulf

DOHA (R) — Thick oil patches have been sighted in the Gulf, southeast of a capsized 38,915 gross ton Greek tanker, and are moving towards the coast of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), a senior port official said Wednesday.

Doha harbour master Galoum Gankeer told Reuters: "A sheen has been seen covering a wide area northeast of the tanker (the Pericles) and southeast of it, thick patches of oil have been spotted six miles (9.6 km) from the Bunduq oil field."

Fire broke out in the engine room and living quarters of the Pericles on Friday when it was sailing from Umm Said Port, 40 kilometres south of Doha, laden with 46,000 tons of oil.

Mr. Gankeer said there was no pollution threat so far to Qatar's shores. Experts expect the oil patches to move towards the uninhabited tiny island of Dayyina, near Bunduq, he said.

## Israel defends terms of November prisoner swap

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel insisted it had carried out the prisoner exchange last month in good faith and said it will not change the terms on which the swap was made.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said in Geneva several detainees exchanged for six Israeli soldiers were held back from the swap.

An Israeli defence ministry press statement said "Israel adhered to the agreement and carried it out in good faith despite the heavy pressure in fulfilling the arrangements."

"If in the course of the exchange some marginal errors were made, Israel is not prepared to change anything in the terms or in what was carried out in the actual exchange."

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## Islamic body to chart model science plan

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has opened a meeting here of a 20-nation committee which he said would chart a model science plan for Islamic countries.

Gen. Zia, who heads the committee on scientific and technological cooperation of the 42-nation Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) told reporters the plan would be sent to the OIC summit next month in Casablanca, Morocco.

He gave no details of the plan but said it would envisage a programme to bring the Islamic countries closer to advanced countries in science and technology by the end of this century.

The committee, during its three-day meeting here, is to discuss recommendations of two commissions that it set up last May to explore possibilities of cooperation between OIC member states.

Earlier in a speech opening the meeting, Gen. Zia said scientific activities should be promoted through science clubs, science fairs, exhibitions, museums, and expeditions and by setting up centres of excellence in selected areas and disciplines.

He said the educational system, starting from primary level, should become the main spring for achieving this transformation and national languages should serve as a vehicle for mass production of textbooks, science fiction and other reading material.

Gen. Zia said he strongly felt that the task of creating "a scientific ethos and value system in Muslim societies must be taken in hand as a matter of high priority."

He called for a greater contact between the scientists of Islamic countries, and said eminent Muslim scientists working outside the Muslim world should be spotted and attracted to institutions at home.

"We must work as a united people for a future in which the positive values of science and the eternal blessings of Islam, including its world view, will achieve an ideal synthesis," he said.

## Fighting reported in provincial Afghan cities

ISLAMABAD (R) — Western diplomats have reported fighting between Afghan guerrillas and Soviet and Afghan forces in at least four provincial cities while the capital of Kabul remained calm in the run-up to the fourth anniversary of the Soviet intervention.

The diplomats, citing reports from their embassies in Kabul, said they had heard of clashes in Mazar-i-Sharif, Ghazni, Kandahar and Herat. The reports could not be independently confirmed.

Extra-tight security measures in Kabul have kept the capital calm, they added, but rumours have started to circulate of another guerrilla attack on Dec. 27 to mark the fourth anniversary of Moscow's move into Kabul.

The diplomats said their embassies reported the chief of staff of the Afghan army's 18th division was killed along with five enlisted men on Nov. 29 in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif.

They said two Soviet military advisors and nine high-ranking Afghan army officers died when their helicopter crashed after coming under guerrilla fire near Moqor, about 100 kilometres southwest of Ghazni in central Afghanistan, on Dec. 1.

They said one traveller from Ghazni to Kabul reported seeing a large number of burned out trucks, tanks and armoured personnel carriers along the road, apparently the result of a recent wave of guerrilla attacks on Soviet and Afghan army convoys.

About 20 Soviet and Afghan soldiers were killed in fighting in the southern city of Kandahar around Dec. 5.

Meanwhile the leader of the main resistance alliance fighting the Soviet-backed government of Afghanistan denied a charge that he was misusing its funds in a struggle against rival guerrilla groups.

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## E. Med environmental health talks to reassess research priorities

By Affish A. Kaloti  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Eastern Mediterranean Regional Conference on Environmental Health will be held here from Dec. 18 until 22 at the Amman Hotel.

The conference, which will be opened by the Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas, is being organised by the ministry in tandem with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

In an interview with the Jordan Times the conference's chairman, Mohammad H. Dajani, said that the conference will be attended by international experts in the field of environmental health in addition to environmental specialists representing around eight countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Asked about the aim of the conference, Mr. Dajani, who is also chief of the Environmental Health Department at the ministry, said that it is basically to revise present

research projects in environmental health with special emphasis on studies connected with public water utilities, sanitation and nutrition in "conformity with WHO's plans to provide water, sanitation, and primary health services to all by the year 2000."

Another aim, he added, is to assess the adaptability of technology that is being employed and to define priorities for solving problems which are facing member states represented at the conference.

A third aim, Mr. Dajani said, is to state the aims of the proposed research projects as well as to draw up a protocol that will pave the way for the launching of joint priority studies.

Mr. Dajani added that the conference will propose the most suitable venues for conducting research, and draw up special guidelines for a regional plan of action.

Referring to Jordan's role in the conference, Mr. Dajani said that

the ministry will present one paper covering two topics.

The first topic, he said, deals with environmental health in Jordan while the second is about the possibilities of research in environmental health activities.

"Jordan will volunteer its research resources to participate in any future regional project," he said.

Mr. Dajani pointed out that the conference will discuss the possibility of establishing a regional environmental centre to help member states "in accumulating information and knowledge about solving, and treating environmental problems to suit the needs and objectives.

In respect to recommendation to be made by the conference, Mr. Dajani said that it might include an outline of standards and techniques necessary "to achieve a better approach towards utilising environmental resources for the optimal satisfaction of human needs and consumption."

## Show to mark Alia's 20th birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — A variety show will be held at Al Hussein Youth City Thursday evening to mark the 20th anniversary of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

At the outset of the show, to be held under royal patronage, Alia board Chairman and President Ali Ghandour will give a speech and distribute certificates of merit to those employees who have completed 20 years of service.

At noon Thursday, Mr. Ghandour will speak at a press con-

ference on Alia's 20th anniversary outlining the achievements of the national airline over the past year and its programmes and aspirations for the future.

Mr. Ghandour is also expected to announce Alia's decision to purchase new modern aircraft over the next three years.

Alia's board of directors has already approved the airline's corporate budget for 1984. Alia now has three Boeing 747

jumbo jets, five TriStar aircraft, six Boeing 727 aircraft and three Boeing 707 jets.

The airline flies to 36 cities on four continents.

Alia has opened offices in the Middle East, the Gulf, Africa, Europe, the Far East and North America, and employs 4,700 people.

This year Alia's revenue amounted to JD 140 million, according to an Alia statement issued Wednesday.

## Centre, despite shoestring budget, nurtures talented amateur artists

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Centre for Music and Fine Arts in Shmeisani survives like many other government departments concerned with culture, both here and abroad, on a shoestring budget. Yet despite the fact that its facilities are of necessity limited it provides, as the present exhibition of its student's work now on at the Royal Cultural Centre shows, a good grounding in the basics of art for the many who are interested, and for whom there is often nowhere else to go, and all for free. The centre, which is run by artist Hafiz Khassis aided by muralist and painter Mohammad Qaitoqa and ceramicist and sculptor Mohammad Sayyed, is well attended and many of the 35 students enrolled at present go several times a week to study. The results of this enthusiasm, combined with the encouragement given to the students by the centre's staff, are as this the students' first exhibition in over two years shows, quite impressive.

### Valuable support

The exhibition obviously impressed Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali too, for after opening the exhibition she toured the 160 paintings, prints, drawings and ceramics twice. She then gave the centre some more much needed support first by offering on behalf of the Jordan National Gallery a scholarship for one of the centre's students to pursue further artistic studies in Turkey and then by suggesting that the centre's next exhibition should be held at the Jordan National Gallery.

What makes this exhibition impressive is not just the variety of subjects and styles which range from precise anatomical sketches to coil pottery, but the hidden potential some of these little paintings and drawings reveal.

### Greatest potential

The artist with the greatest potential must be 14 year-old Nidal Abu Dieh, who was not surprisingly the winner of the Alia children's painting competition last spring. Nidal has been studying at the centre for three years, going almost every day. In that time he has developed his own style backed by an enormous ability to draw and paint, as his copies of the great classic works of Michelangelo and Durer show. His style is essentially impressionistic, catching, in a palette of rich earth browns and sandy reds, riders in the desert. His best piece at this exhibition however is his more realistic portrayal of a labourer digging. Here you can almost feel the weight, the pressure of that wide, bare on top of the spade. You can sense the effort in that

### ART REVIEW

straining back and bulging calf muscle, while the force of the movement as a whole is given potency by the rushing colours of the background. It is a remarkable achievement for one so young.

### Satellite view

Another very attractive work is Abdullah Khaleeli's carefully painted satellite view of the world. In the rich colours of gouash he has represented the earth as a circle alive with swirling hot oranges, reds and yellows, sitting in a night black sky touched with tiny points of light. Covering both and unifying them is a series of white grid lines which like an indecipherable computer drawing reduces everything to the scientific two dimensions of a print out screen.

Other very good and interesting work includes Kamal Mussalam's

little black and white still life, Sawwan Rawwas' tiny rendition of a typical Jordanian village which, from its mountain top perch, overlooks the blue depths of the valley below, Abdul Hamad Ralaf's striking black and white portrait of an old man and finally Asmahan Mohammad's huge ceramic chick emerging from its shell.

"Among the centre's graduates who have taken part in the exhibition is Mukarram Rifai whose memorable watercolour of a rain-drenched street and tiny pastel drawing of a spring-green tree really stands out.

Because the budget of the centre is minimal, there has been some talk of closing the place down due to financial reasons. One look at this exhibition — and this was partly the intention — makes it obvious what a terrible shame this would be. It is the only place of its kind in the country and the sheer amount of work produced there alone shows how much the centre is used and needed. Let's hope this is a minor disaster that can be averted.

Most of the work is for sale and at very reasonable prices. The exhibition closes on Saturday December 18.

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## Gala to raise money for relief fund

AMMAN (J.T.) — Princess Anne, daughter of Queen Elizabeth II of Britain, who is president of Save the Children Fund, will be guest of honour at an Arab Gala scheduled to be held Wednesday night at London's Savoy Hotel.

The event is being organised by Save the Children Fund and is the brain child of the wives of the Arab ambassadors in London, through the Emergency Relief Fund Committee of their Arab Women's Council.

It was inspired by Princess Anne's visit to Lebanon in 1982.

The highlight of the evening will be a fashion show of priceless Arab costumes and jewellery dating back to the eighteenth century. More than 70 costumes will be shown, culled from private collections and from the museums of 16 Arab countries.

The clothes range from a traditional 200-year old bedouin gown from Asir in Saudi Arabia to modern costumes.

The evening will end with a gala dinner.

A spokesman for Save the Children Fund says that £20,000 is expected to be raised by the event.

The money is being donated to the fund for its work in the Arab World for its projects in child health, welfare and education.

Last year the organisation spent more than £1 million in Arab countries on similar projects.

## Debate stresses support for industry

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The need to create an atmosphere which encourages local investment and to protect Jordan's infant industry as a means of strengthening and developing the country's economy were two important points emphasised by National Consultative Council (NCC) members during the debate over the 1984 budget last Sunday.

Members called on the government to promote investment and simplify the red tape that discourages Jordanians from investing in productive projects.

NCC member Anis Mouasher called on the government to make Jordan into an industrial and financial regional and international centre. Something, he said, which requires incentives to encourage foreign investments.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran, however, told the council at the end of the Sunday session, that the government will soon introduce a new encouragement of investment law designed to attract Arab capital into Jordan and to encourage joint governmental and private sector investment.

Members pointed out that Jordan's infant industry should be protected from foreign competition.

They pointed out that the domestic market is being dumped with foreign commodities that compete with nationally produced goods.

It was suggested that the government should prevent the importation of goods that are similar to the ones produced locally in order to boost national industries.

On the local level, members said, the government should not allow people to invest in projects

government, it was stressed, should support production and not consumption.

Dr. Yacoub Abu Ghosh linked the consumption of luxury goods with the growing gap between the rich and poor.

Problems faced by the contracting industry was given special attention by the speakers.

The Jordanian building industry is facing strong foreign competition that threatens its existence, they said. Members reiterated their position that measures should be taken to secure the continuity of this industry.

The relatively high percentage of foreign labourers in Jordan was discussed. It was pointed out that the main reason for an increase in foreign labourers is "the high price of local labourers." Another factor that can be added is that many multinational firms have headquarters in Jordan, members said.

Studies on the subject show the bulk of foreign labourers work in the contracting and transportation industries. Foreign labour constitutes 30.4 per cent of the total labour force.

Moreover Arab labourers occupy the highest percentage of the total foreign labour force. Statistics indicate that in 1980 Arab workers constituted 77.9 per cent of the total foreign labour force while east Asian workers came next making up 17.5 per cent.

Attention was also called to the infrastructure aspect of industry such as energy projects and transportation.

The 1984 budget allocates JD 146 million, constituting half the capital expenditure, to water and electricity projects and road building.

This step was encouraged by members who said that "it will facilitate the establishment of productive projects in different parts of the country."

Members also pressed the government to continue in its projects of looking for oil, minerals and water.

Studies have indicated that Jordan might have a reservoir of oil and research projects are being pursued in this respect.

Mr. Attalah Al Kabariti called on Saudi Arabia to reassess its reported decision to cut on the oil pumped to Jordan as a prelude to a permanent cessation of pumping after two years.

To face the situation, he suggested that the government studies the possibility of extending pipe lines between Iraq and Aqaba.

Moreover, to activate trade he called on the government to adopt a plan to operate a shipping line that would connect Aqaba with Tabu on the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt.

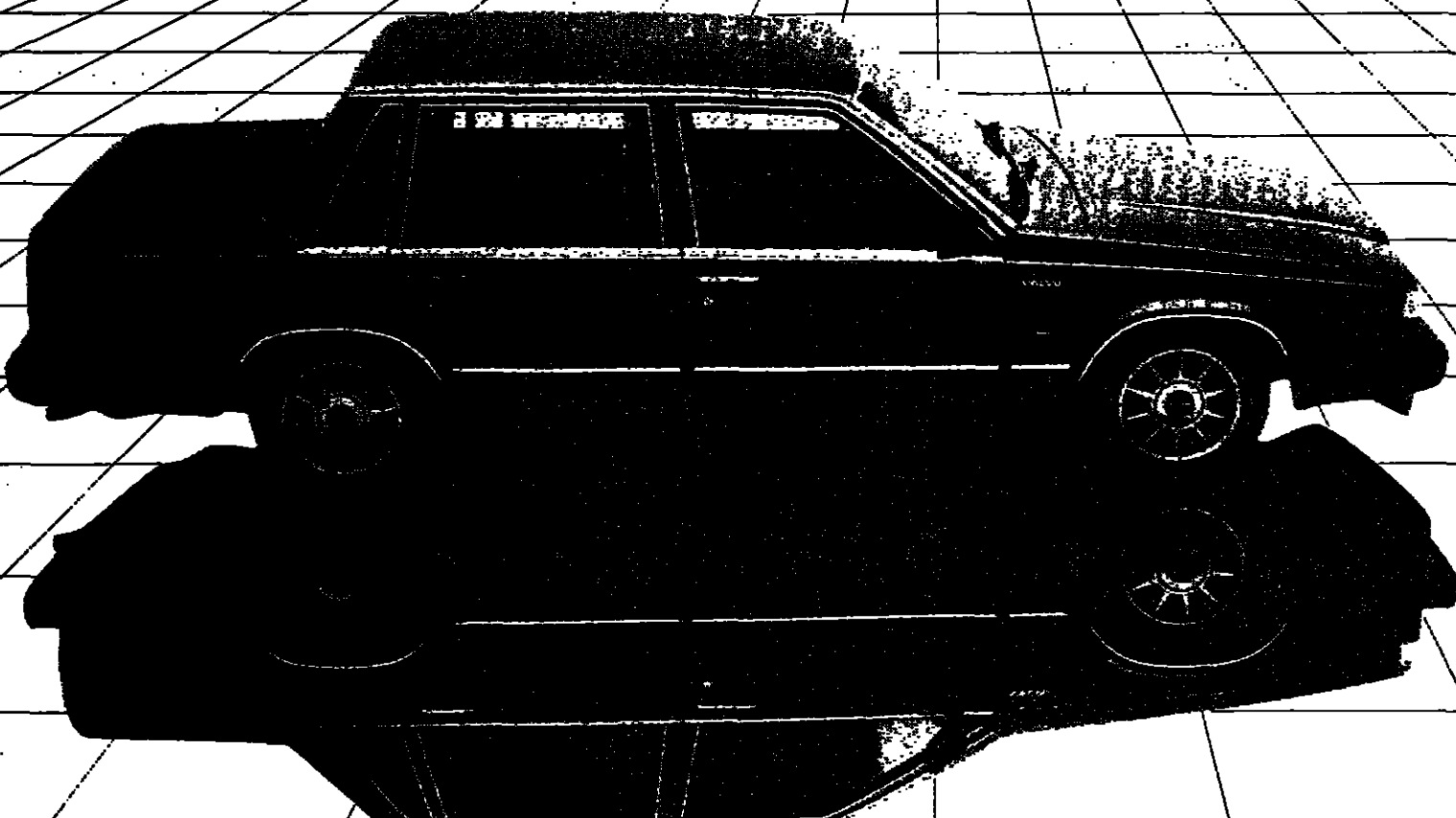
Such a step will save many hours of travel between the Suez Canal and Aqaba it was said.

## Ambassador appointed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A royal decree was issued appointing the Jordanian ambassador in the Soviet Union Faleh Al Tawil as non-resident Jordanian ambassador to Finland and Poland and the Jordanian ambassador to Chile Sameh Al Faraj as non-resident Jordanian ambassador to Argentina.

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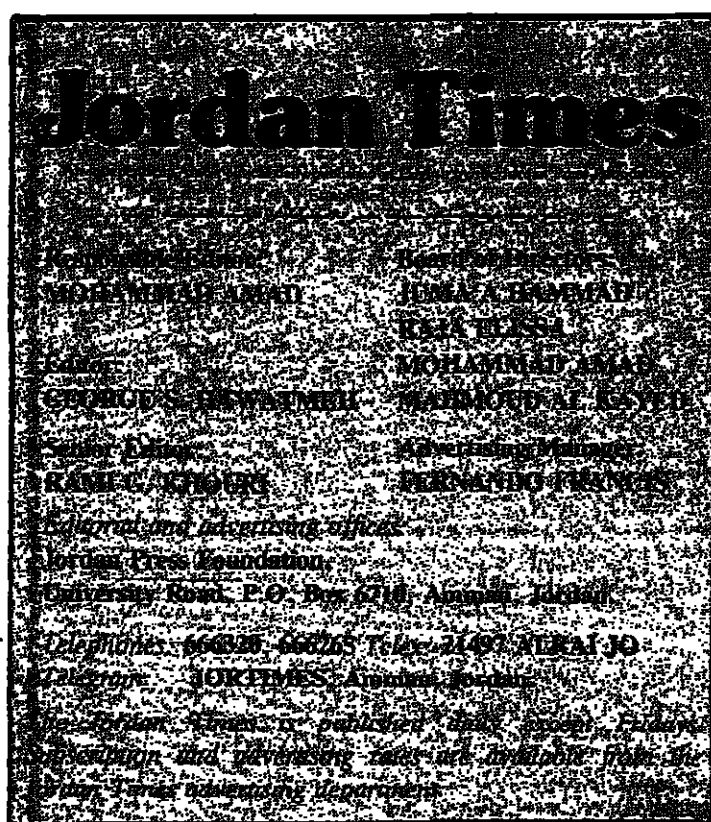


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## What is the puzzle?

AS PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and his men prepare to leave Tripoli, pending the arrival of guarantees that the ships carrying them to Tunisia and North Yemen will not be attacked by the Israelis, Israel wants to keep everybody guessing and nervous about the possibility of such an attack.

Although some Israelis, and others, say that the prospect of Israel Navy boats intervening against Arafat's transports is less than likely, Israeli officials maintain that they will give no guarantees for a safe evacuation for the Palestinians from Lebanon.

Israel is angry that the U.N. has decided to give flag protection to the Greek ships carrying the PLO fighters, according to these officials. Secondly, Israel does not want the Palestinians' heavy weapons to be taken with them. And then the granting of a safe conduct could, as far as the Israelis are concerned, be turned against Israel in the future and used as precedent. Add to these that Israel is complaining that Arafat "broke" his word by returning to Lebanon after the evacuation from Beirut last August, and you would be expected to understand Israel's present stand.

So, guarantees Israel will not give to assure the safe passage of PLO fighters in the Mediterranean. But will it actually attack them, given that the Americans have "hoped" and "urged" for a safe-conduct, and Israel risks enraging international opinion by firing on the Greek flotilla carrying U.N. flags? Should we believe David Levy, Israel's deputy prime minister, who told Le Monde two days ago that his state "had not the slightest intention of attacking the guerrillas if they evacuated Tripoli by sea"? Or Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i who was quoted in a speech yesterday as saying "Israel has not given and will not give promises not to hit Arafat and his terrorists at any time or any place?"

The question of Israel keeping up the war of nerves does in fact then pose a dilemma; and whoever thinks that Israel is playing a game with Arafat and his men, and nothing else, should reconsider his position. One thing remains clear though: Israel's pursuit of the Palestinian leader, his men and his movement and Israel's enmity towards them are all too long and too deep to take the whole matter of Israeli threats too lightly now.

The dangers of carrying out these threats are indeed real, and should be taken as such. The evacuation from Tripoli, if it is to take place, has to have solid international and Arab guarantees that it would in no way be hampered.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: France has role to play

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein who is paying a visit to France at present, has emphasised the role which France and the European Community can play in the search for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Europe is now called on to assume an important role in this respect in the light of superpower rivalry and its vital interests in the Arab World. Needless to say, European interests in the region are in grave danger due to Zionist policies as are those of the United States which supports Israel's expansionist and aggressive policies in our region.

France has in the past played courageous and slender Charles de Gaulle in a total independence from East and West. We would like to see Paris playing a constructive role in bringing peace and stability to our region out of responsibility and in keeping with the close historical ties it has with the Arab World. If tension in the Middle East continues to escalate and if another war breaks out in the region, there is no doubt Europe's interests will be the first to suffer and of course the world peace will be endangered.

#### Al Dustour: Bombs bolster Gulf unity

THE ARAB population of the Gulf region have realised that the explosions which occurred in Kuwait Monday were a desperate attempt by Iran to ignite the Gulf War's battleground and spread the fire to the Arabian Peninsula. The governments and parliaments of the Gulf states have unanimously condemned the criminal acts of the Iranians, and the Kuwaitis have wisely and tactfully handled the situation and now have everything under control. The explosions have apparently failed to cause any breach in Arabian Gulf solidarity nor have they been able to shake Kuwait's self-confidence or change its national policies. The explosions have failed to dissuade Kuwait from supporting Iraq in its war with Iran and, if anything, has actually further bolstered Arabian Gulf solidarity.

Those trying to tamper with the security of the Gulf should realise that they are attempting the impossible. The Iranians who perpetrated the explosions should know well that they are continuing to offering to major service to the Arab Nation's enemies and to the foreign nations which have ambitions in our region. Those who play with the fire can never escape the flames.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Campaign of intimidation

THE KUWAIT explosions seem to be designed to create internal confusion within the Arab World escalate tension and spread fear among the Arab people.

Those who planted these bombs are engaged upon launching a campaign of intimidation against the Arabs. They are spreading rumours that specially trained terrorist squads are now on the loose striking at vital Arab interests. The enemies of the Arab World are in fact deeply involved in preparing plans intended to keep the Arab Nation engulfed in its own troubles and problems so as to forget about the Israeli and Iranian enemies.

These actions can only sap Arab resources and distract Arab attention from the real problems that require solution. The Kuwait bombings are not much different from the attacks on Jordanian diplomats abroad nor from the factional battles in Lebanon that all these are designed to divert the Arab citizen's attention from the original issue, namely the Palestine problem which is the crux of the whole Middle East issue and the causes of all its ills and sufferings.

## RED AND BLACK

# What is going on in Washington?

By Jawad Ahmad

SO FAR the strategic "arrangements" agreed on by both USA and Israel have not been signed. They are supposed to be discussed further and analysed one month from now. Arab response to this arrangement has thus far been colder than expected. Certain American and Israeli quarters expected an Arab frenzy in response. Now that this has not happened, they are telling the Arabs, "listen, you've got one more month to do something, or else." I doubt that any serious move on the part of the Arabs would actually take place during the intervening period.

The lack of at least sufficiently emotional and high-pitched screams at America are a source of distress to moderate Arabs. This means that the average citizen does not give a "hoot" about what America does with Israel. To the average Arab, USA and Israel are one party. Any hope that is attached to America as a "fair broker" is outside the realm of reality. This is the point when extremism begins to find expression in different modes, and the shouts to threaten American interests in the area are heard.

There is another dimension of importance which must be

added to the picture here. The American press has been voicing over the last two or three weeks genuine concern over the oil route through the Strait of Hormuz. The threats of the Iranian regime to escalate the Gulf (alias forgotten) war has finally won the ears of America. Why? The "Iraqis" occasional bombardment of Kharg Island was meant, inter alia, to arouse Western attention to the 40-month old war. Only recently did that Iraqi appeal come to being heard.

If any lesson is to be derived from this, it is two fold. First, that only through heat will

American heed. Second, that American interests are the Achilles' heel. This sad conclusion supports the long standing interpretation of America as seen by Arab radicals.

It is therefore quite logical to say that radicalism does not serve the interests of America except to the extent that they scare moderate Arabs and make them seek American help — conditional help that if. The danger of this game is that moderate Arabs are co-opted and, if squeezed too much, will identify with Arab radicals as the more popular and safer stance. Americans have not yet come to grips with

the fact that moderation is the most critical path to take. Such delicateness is also enhanced by American relentless support of Israel. The last — or forthcoming — January strategic "arrangements" are the final blow.

If the "strategic" talks are merely a ploy to press upon moderate Arabs to negotiate, it is obviously a miscalculated step. If it is meant to be a serious arrangement to safeguard the "global and strategic interests of America" in the area, then it is a ridiculous move. America has been carefully manoeuvred around by Israel and the Zionists.

Moderate Arabs remember the lessons derived from the late Egyptian President Sadat's moderation. It is said that Sadat had actually admitted, prior to his assassination, that it took him six months to educate President Ford on the Middle East, three months to educate President Carter, and that it would take him three years to educate President Reagan.

Even moderate Arabs believe that America should not be trusted alone with the task of peace negotiation in the area. Is the strategic arrangement America's answer to that? What on earth is going on in Washington these days?

## S. Korea angry at West's coolness to 'North terror'

By Roland-Pierre Paringaux

SEOUL — How does one "punish" a government (North Korea) which has committed an act of international terrorism against another government (South Korea) when there are absolutely no diplomatic relations between the two? What does one do when the government, concerned remains tensed, clinging to its armed might and wrapped up in its totalitarian ideology, while the Communist and non-aligned countries, of which it is a leading member, maintain an embarrassed or conniving silence? And again, what to do when some Western countries, among them France, flout the principles they are first to proclaim and keep silent after having initially — when the guilty party had not yet been named — condemned the killings (in Rangoon) in no uncertain manner and shed official tears over the coffins? What to do when for once, the guilty party — a state — is named by another state, which is socialist

like itself and non-aligned?

These are, in essence, the questions government circles in Seoul are asking bitterly and indignantly after the government of Burma had formally accused North Korea of being responsible for the Oct. 9 terrorist attack which practically wiped out the visiting South Korean presidential delegation. The explosion, triggered prematurely, spared President Chun Doo Hwan, though he was the prime target. But it killed 17 members of the South Korean delegation (including four ministers and an ambassador and several presidential advisers) and injured some 50 others. In a communiqué issued on Nov. 4, Rangoon also announced it was breaking off relations with Pyongyang and expelling all the North Korean diplomats within 48 hours.

In spite of Pyongyang's protestations of innocence, the outright and unequivocal charge against North Korea, which the South

Korean government had not been expecting because of the political affinities between the two countries and the political pressures, came as a pleasant surprise here and somewhat raised spirits which had been particularly affected by the adversary's blows and Seoul's inability to respond in most cases without calling on Washington. The Rangoon tragedy, in fact, took place a month after that of the South Korean airliner.

This satisfaction had to be tempered, however, and was of short duration. Confident in the laws and irrespective of partisan affiliations and domestic realities, South Korea expected the Burmese government's revelations to have an impact on the world community. Whereas in fact they were hardly more than a damp squib.

With the North denying the accusations, Moscow supporting Pyongyang, and Peking appearing to be dismayed and embarrassed by the dangerous unpredictability

of its ally, the "Great and Beloved Leader" Marshal Kim Il Sung, Washington protested and President Reagan took a tough line and both allies promised to work together to "punish" North Korea. But with no diplomatic or economic relations between the two countries, means are limited and indirect. There are attempts to bring up the assassination incident in world forums (but not in the U.N. Security Council, because Rangoon is reliably said to be opposed to such a move, after all) — pressure by the United States on its allies, friends and clients to make them move away from North Korea and help isolate it politically, as both the United States and South Korea would like to do.

Pakistan and Egypt are said to be prepared to cooperate. Japan has verbally condemned Pyongyang, but practice its "sanctions" are laughable. The biggest disappointment, however, is the absence of individual or group

reactions from Western European countries. Only Great Britain and Norway have condemned the North Korean regime. Are the others waiting for the opening of the trial (it opened on Nov. 22) and its findings before breaking up? Or are some of them being prevented from warring indignantly because of national interests, and political considerations?

Soul government sources deplore in particular France's silence on the subject, and this for three reasons. First, because France, its government and its president are "legalist and generally quite particular about principles". Secondly, because France has itself often been subjected to terrorist acts which it has always vigorously condemned. Finally, and most of all perhaps, because for the past two years the French government, and president have been adopting an attitude, considered to be ambivalent, on the question of recognising North Korea and the visit (promised in 1982) of Francois

Mitterrand to Seoul. All this, however, is not preventing France from seeking to further its trade relations with South Korea.

The government's silence, on one side, and Industry and Research Minister Laurent Fabius' planned visit to South Korea (in December) would seem to stem from a dualistic French view of the peninsula, a view that is both political and pragmatic. France made a generous gesture by sending Trade and Crafts Minister Michel Crepeau to the funeral of the Rangoon bombing victims. But it lost this advantage by not speaking up after the guilty party was named. Was this through a diplomatic failure to follow up or because of political embarrassment? We do not know. But the hope is that, after all, when the verdict confirms the Burmese government's accusation, the French government will not miss the opportunity to condemn the terrorist state without ambiguity. — Le Monde.

## Make-believe peacemaking game in Namibia no longer amuses France

By Neil Lewis

Reuter

WINDHOEK, Namibia (South West Africa) — France's decision to step back from joint Western efforts to negotiate independence for Namibia (South West Africa) is seen by diplomats and local political leaders as the latest sign that any settlement is far off despite intense diplomatic activity.

Diplomats from the Western "contact group" of the U.S., France, Britain, West Germany and Canada have said in interviews they agree with the French position that there has been little progress recently towards achieving independence for the region.

"South Africa has made it quite clear it is in no hurry to get out," one diplomat told Reuters.

Pretoria administers the mineral-rich territory in defiance of United Nations resolutions. South Africa's mandate to rule the area was revoked by the General Assembly in 1966 and since then it has waged sporadic bush war against the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) for control of the vast territory, one third bigger than France.

France's decision not to attend meetings of the contact group caused no concern to Namibia's political leaders, left or rightwing, who in recent interviews with Reuters have accepted that inde-

pendence was some way off. The five Western nations formed the "contact group" in 1977 to act as brokers in bringing about an independence settlement.

Recent efforts have been stalled by South Africa's insistence, backed by Washington, that no settlement or South African withdrawal can take place unless an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops depart at the same time from neighbouring Angola.

The other members of the contact group have been notably uneasy over this "linkage" of the two issues, especially in the face of criticism from black Africa that it was merely an excuse to delay Namibian independence.

In an open break, French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson said last week Paris would attend no more contact group meetings as there was no longer any point in doing so.

Government spokesmen later said France was not withdrawing from the group, but Paris had nonetheless effectively stepped back from current Western efforts and distanced itself from the linkage issue.

Nico Bessinger, joint foreign secretary of SWAPO, told Reuters last week SWAPO aimed to

split the contact group over linkage and isolate the United States as the only member which agreed with the South African view on Cuban forces in Angola.

"Then it will be seen that this linkage is nothing but an excuse put forward by the South Africans and the Americans," Mr. Bessinger said.

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha, who returned this weekend from a European tour, repeated Pretoria's insistence that the situation in Angola was inextricably tied to any Namibian settlement.

He told the Johannesburg Sunday Express there could be no independence in Namibia until there was peace in Angola and said "the odds against settlement are largely related to the civil war in Angola, SWAPO and the presence of the Cubans in Angola."

Mr. Botha had talks with several heads of state and with Chester Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs.

South Africa maintains a large military force on the Angolan border as it seeks to cripple SWAPO forces. A military spokesman said South Africa had up to 50,000 troops in the country at any one time and some 12,000

combat troops in the northern war zone.

Pretoria acknowledges its forces operate freely in southern Angola, crossing the border often for a week at a time.

"We have switched from a defensive tactic to an offensive tactic," the defence force spokesman said. "If we detect SWAPO bases in southern Angola, we go after them."

Anti-government forces of the union for the total independence of Angola (UNITA), a South African ally, control much of southeastern Angola.

Some analysts doubt whether South Africa would quit Namibia and allow U.N. procedures to bring independence even if the Cubans left Angola.

Few people doubt that SWAPO would win free elections among the country's population of about one million.

As a result, Pretoria has encouraged local political parties to form an anti-SWAPO front. Some of the territory's varied parties are trying to set up a multi-party conference which could serve as an interim government acceptable to South Africa. Two attempts at interim government in the last decade failed.

## LETTERS

### Comforting start to the day

To the Editor:

I have just returned from a short business trip to Jordan. It was my first trip to the Middle East. I stayed with three other European businessmen at the Amra Hotel in Amman. The facilities at the hotel were first class and we were received most hospitably. Indeed by our Jordanian hosts.

The reason I write to you is quite simply because I received each morning (underneath the bedroom door) a copy of the Jordan Times, printed in English, with the compliments of the management. It always arrived in good time for breakfast and by the time the business day started I was just up-to-date with the news as I would have been at home in England.

What an excellent idea it is to provide the European visitor with this unexpected but most welcome addition to his visit. My colleagues were unanimous in their appreciation of this gesture.

We were all equally impressed with the quality of the newspaper — brief, yet sufficiently comprehensive and objective, well written and to the point, easily and speedily read. Moreover, it is somehow "comforting" for the visitor to be brought up-to-date each morning with the political news and at the same time to have brief details of "important" domestic events, such as the result of the Hagler fight and Spurs v Liverpool etc.

As far as I am concerned your newspaper provided me each morning with a first class start to the day and you deserve every compliment for such constructive courtesy.

John C. Marshall  
Wiseman Lee Marshall (Solicitors).  
7 High Street,  
Rayleigh, Essex,  
England.

The Jordan Times expresses deep appreciation for Mr. Marshall's kind and encouraging remarks about the paper and hopes to be always up to its readers' expectations.

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# Planes that capture the hearts of aviation enthusiasts

WASHINGTON — Whether you call them flying bicycles or lawn chairs with wings, ultralight airplanes have put wings on the backs of many people who before could only dream of soaring in the skies.

Constructed of aluminium tubing and colourful sailcloth, these back-to-basics flying machines resemble dragonflies in shape and transience. As many as 20,000 of them are now flying.

To fly an ultralight, you don't need a pilot's license or a runway. This simple craft requires as little as 50 feet to take off and land, and is therefore well suited for launch from back yards and pastures.

Costing between \$4,500 and \$6,500, the ultralight is also affordable to the would-be pilot.

## Started in 1907

The fathers of flight, of course, are Wilbur and Orville Wright, but the true ancestor of the ultralight was built in Paris in 1907 by Brazilian Alberto Santos-Dumont. His machine, called the Dragonfly, was constructed of bamboo and silk, weighed 2.3 pounds, had a two-cylinder, 20 horsepower engine, and flew up to speeds of 48 miles an hour. These specifications are common to today's ultralights.

The creation of the modern ultralight is credited to John Moody of Wisconsin.

"I didn't mean to reinvent the airplane," Moody said. "I wanted to fly and have fun."

In March 1975 he rigged a 10-horsepower engine and propeller to his hang glider and took flight over a frozen lake. In September of that year Moody made a pioneer 16-mile cross-country flight in his powered hand glider that caught the attention of would-be bird men across the land. Regardless of how humble Moody feels, his invention started a craze.

Luis Marden, in an article on ultralights in the August issue of National Geographic, writes: "The truth is that the potentialities of the ultralight, for good or evil, are almost limitless. But the overriding function of the ultralight is to make possible the poetry of flight."

## Policy in sky

The planes also have their down-to-earth functions. In Downey, California, policemen linked by radio to patrol cars pilot ultralights over the city. These airborne officers can track fugitives and maintain a bird's-eye view of the goings-on.

Scientists are using ultralights to follow the migrations of butterflies and to study sharks. And farmers also have taken to the wing. Dusting crops from ultralights costs 30 per cent per acre — about 10 per cent that of dusting with conventional aircraft.

Ultralights have some ominous applications as well. In 1981, two Palestinians were captured in Israel. They came from Lebanon by way of powered hang gliders. Enough concern has been generated that the Central Intelligence Agency has asked a leading manufacturer not to sell the planes to a list of suspicious characters.

Although ultralights do not have to be registered and pilots are not required to be licensed, some regulations do exist for the planes.

The Federal Aviation Administration last year set the following rules to protect the public and the airspace. An ultralight:

- May not weigh more than 254 pounds.
- May not fly faster than 63 miles an hour.
- May not stall at more than 27 miles an hour.
- May not carry more than five gallons of fuel.
- May not fly at night.
- Must stay out of controlled airspace.

With safety in mind, many ultralight manufacturers require de-

lers to inspect the finished planes and to train owners to fly. The ultralight programme at the Air Safety Foundation is striving for safe flight by registering pilots and aircraft and setting airworthiness standards. They also have registered 600 pilot examiners.

## Model T of the skies

In the lead for producing the flying machine for everyone is Eipper Aircraft near San Diego. Its Quicksilver ultralight is the largest selling and most copied model in the world.

The ultralight appears to be recession proof, even though sales of general aircraft have been cut in half.

"One month last summer we came within one unit of selling as many aircraft as Piper, Cessna, and Beechcraft combined," said John Lasko of Eipper.

All in all, these miniature planes are capturing the hearts of aviation enthusiasts.

"We have tried to reduce human flight to its essence, and I think we have succeeded," Lasko said. — National Geographic news feature.



Tom Simko flies free at 12,000 feet over Wyoming's Grand Tetons in his Pterodactyl ultralight, a model with tail in front. James Campbell, another Pterodactyl pilot, in 1981 soared to an unofficial record of 21,210 feet (National Geographic photo).

## Randa Habib's Corner

### Ballet and backaches

The Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) theatre is one big achievement of which all of us are proud. Comfortable, excellent acoustics, it is what we truly need in Jordan. However, I have a reservation about the floor of the stage.

All persons who like me, have seen Scala di Milan performance of "Swan Lake" must have been somehow bothered by the tapping noise made by the dancers. This noise is totally in contradiction with the severe atmosphere usually prevailing during ballet performances. Apart from this, the theatre enables music and dance lovers to meet in a small group and enjoy themselves (the seating capacity of the theatre is only 300).

The problem, however, arises when there is a folkloric troupe or a big musical or dancing group that requires a larger audience. In this case the Al Hussein Sports City theatre would be the answer.

Yes, but how many amongst us would hesitate to go there just because they are worried about getting back pains sitting on the uncomfortable chairs?

This theatre originally designed to be a gymnasium, is spacious but very uncomfortable. This is why many people prefer to sit on the stairs. Why couldn't they replace the seats of this theatre?

At first it would be enough to change the seats in the front-rows and replace them by ones similar to the RCC theatre seats. These would of course be more expensive than the others and this would enable the responsible people to collect money.

As a second step the back seats can be changed and so on until the whole theatre has new comfortable chairs.

In Jordan people are becoming more and more interested in artistic activities and more comfortable theatre seats would surely be appreciated.

### Intellectual powers can grow in old age

WEST BERLIN — Healthy people remain capable of learning until they are very old. Even after the threshold years at the beginning of the sixties, intelligence can develop and increase. These are the findings of a psychology professor, Paul B. Baltes, and fellow researchers at the Max Planck Institute for educational research in West Berlin. They base their finding after studying about 250 people aged between 60 and 80.

Professor Baltes says the complicated system of human intelligence goes through a constant process of advance and decline throughout adulthood. Everyone, regardless of intellectual starting point, education, age and sex, was capable of improving the intellect until advanced old age — German feature.

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## SPORTS

## West Indies routs India

CALCUTTA (R) — West Indies, spearheaded by fast bowler Malcolm Marshall, crushed India by an innings and 46 runs with more than a day to spare in the fifth cricket test on Wednesday and took a winning 3-0 lead in the six-match series.

Marshall took four of India's five remaining wickets Wednesday morning and finished with his best test figures of six for 37 as India, 136 behind on first innings, were routed for 40.

Fellow paceman Andy Roberts took the last wicket to complete India's destruction 22 minutes before lunch on the fourth day.

India, who resumed on 36 for five after Tuesday's rest day, were all out for their lowest total in 53

tests against West Indies — the previous worst was 97 at Kingston in 1976.

Marshall, whose new ball burst with Michael Holding (3-29) on the third day started India's collapse, beat his previous best of five for 37, also against India, at Port-of-Spain last March.

The sixth and final test starts in Madras on December 24.

The result was the culmination of a splendid fightback by West

Indies, who left India bitterly reflecting that they let slip a good position.

West Indies were reeling on 88 for five in reply to India's first innings of 241 but recovered to make 377 essentially on the strength of an outstanding 161 not out by their 39-year-old captain Clive Lloyd.

The touring team's fast bowlers swiftly pressed home the advantage, and despite the prospect of any early finish on Wednesday.

It seemed for a while as if the optimism of Calcutta's cricket enthusiasts was justified as the pair held out for almost half an hour before Marshall broke through by beating Shastri for pace and bowling him.

## Another seed tumbles in NSW Open

SYDNEY (R) — American Robert Seguso, who quit a tennis coaching school in Florida when he realised he was not being treated as "one of the top guys," beat a second seeded player on Wednesday to win a quarter-final place in the New South Wales (NSW) Men's Open Championship.

He followed his victory over sixth-seeded Australian John Fitzgerald on Tuesday by beating American Tim Gullikson: the 11th seed, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3.

Seguso, 20, one of only two qualifiers left in the tournament, said: "I spent two days at the school of a leading coach in Florida, but I found it too regimented and left. If you weren't one of the top guys you never got any real help."

"But I always knew I had the talent to play against the top guys and that's why I decided to turn pro instead of finishing my final year on the college circuit."

His form on grass has been remarkable considering his last grass court match before coming to Australia was four years ago in a junior tournament in the United States.

Gullikson was one of four seeded players to go out on Wednesday, leaving only five of the original 16 seeds.

The others to be eliminated were Sweden's Henrik Sundstrom, who lost 6-3, 6-4 to Peter Feigl of Austria, compatriot Stefan Edberg, who went down 6-4, 6-3 to Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecir, and Chip Hooper, who was beaten 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 by fellow-American Lloyd Bourne.

Britain's John Lloyd, conqueror of top-seeded American Vitas Gerulaitis on Tuesday, did not have such a rewarding day on Wednesday. He was beaten 7-6, 6-2 by New Zealander Bruce Derlin.

## Barcelona bids for '92 Olympics

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — Barcelona Wednesday launched its bid to stage the 1992 Olympic Games, hoping that the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage to America will clinch the deal.

"We are hoping that the anniversary will swing the vote in our favour," Mayor Pasqual Maragall told reporters when he presented an official working paper on the project.

Barcelona, making its fourth bid to be host for the games, will be competing against Stockholm, Paris, New Delhi and Brisbane. The Olympics have never been held in Spain.

Maragall said he believed Barcelona was already well equipped and could easily manage to build the remaining necessary facilities. The paper drawn up by his administration will be presented to the Spanish government for approval before a definitive plan is forwarded to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) by December 1985.

The mayor said the cost would total more than 108 billion pesetas (\$720 m).

Barcelona tried for the games in 1924, 1936, and 1972.

## THE Daily Crossword

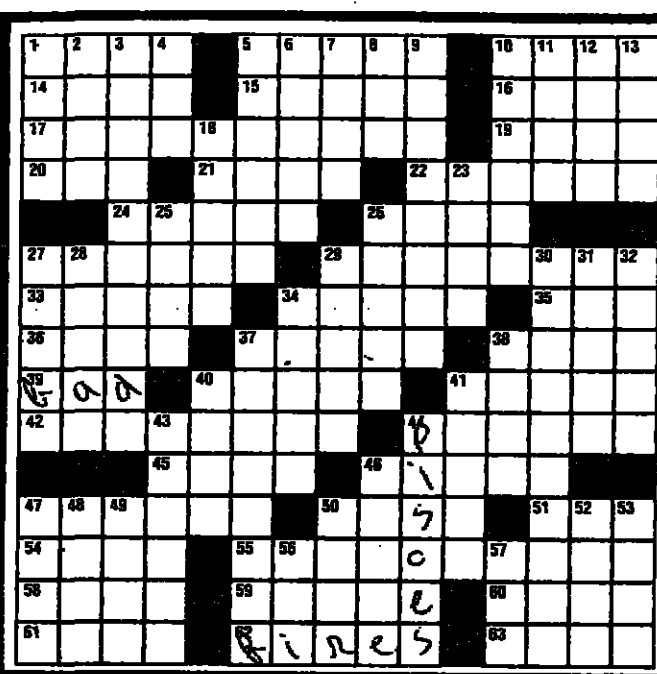
by Louis Sabin

ACROSS	27 Kabob holder	45 Washday bubbles	12 Solar disc
1 Fully developed	29 Pug	46 — pneumonia	13 Chinese society
5 Boot out	33 Foot problems	47 Analyzes grammatically	18 Borge and Hamlet
10 Tiff	34 Like a wagon	50 Platter	23 Not at home
14 Red sea	35 Exist	51 Sheep award	25 Like some grain
15 Sometime business setting	36 American chemist	54 Drama	26 Take off!
16 Sax	37 Sudden attack	55 Jumped a certain way	27 Skin a seal
17 Drum beat	38 Harvest	58 Buck	28 Asian land
19 Early age	39 "Gris"	59 Heroine	29 Agra wear
20 Hyson, for one	40 City in Brazil	60 Sea gull	30 Advocates
21 Central line	41 Legume, old style	61 WWII's Ernie —	31 Wind-worm
22 Malay knife	42 Kneecaps	62 Sacks	32 Turn back
24 Florida town	43 Tract of land	63 Voyaging	33 Fountain drinks
28 "I — ship a-sailing"			37 Crystalline mineral

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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EMOCH	TIMEP	NORIA
DAYOU	TIMEP	TYMEN
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PIATINE	TOITE	ACIS
HORSE	DAIR	DAIR
ALLIT	DAIS	VIABLE
LESIE	ARTIE	WIRAK
EDER	RIED	ENTIRE

DOWN	40 Melancholy
1 Fascinated	41 Shrive up
2 Dies —	43 Ascetic
3 Military stance	44 Zodiac fish
4 High note	46 Piece of food
5 Cure-all	47 Info
6 Old part of Palestine	48 With skill
7 Tips	49 Iran money
8 250	50 Three: Ger.
9 "Come to the aid of —"	52 "The Way We —"
10 Minor prince	53 Mrs. Casey
11 Legal act	56 Wing
	57 Hagen of the boards



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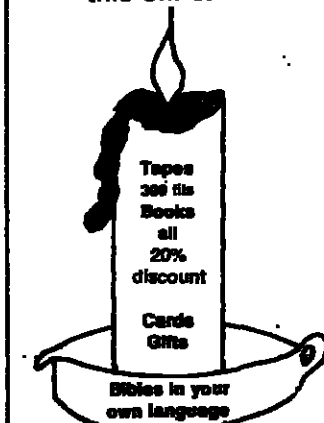
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## Dollar holds firm

LONDON (R) — The dollar continued its relentless rise on foreign exchange markets Wednesday pushing the French franc to a record low and briefly sending sterling down to \$1.41 for the first time.

Despite some intervention, European central banks appeared wary of squandering their reserves on propping up their ailing currencies.

The franc, sterling and the West German mark all came under pressure as the dollar surged ahead against a background of political uncertainty, strengthening recovery in the United States and fears that U.S. interest rates might rise.

The franc slumped more than 7 centimes from the previous low Tuesday of 8.4030, being fixed in Paris at 8.4750.

The Bank of England was said to have intervened to smooth the market.

The pound opened at \$1.4180 from \$1.4170 at the Tuesday's

close and above the previous low of \$1.4155 seen at the New York close.

Dealers said the West German Bundesbank also intervened in the market, selling 547.7 million as the dollar was fixed in Frankfurt at a near 10-year high of 2.7685 marks after 2.7534 Tuesday.

Tuesday's U.S. retail sales figures, which showed a 1.9 per cent rise in November, reinforced the belief that the American economic recovery was accelerating and could put upward pressure on interest rates, they said.

They expect the American M-1 money supply figures (cash and cheque accounts) due on Friday to show a rise of between \$3 and \$7 billion.

There is some expectation that with the economy booming the Federal Reserve, the U.S. central bank, will decide to tighten money supply in the belief that interest rates could harden without adverse effect.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### U.K. industrial output shows slow gain

LONDON (R) — British industrial output is showing a modest advance from recession despite a fall in October, statistics showed Tuesday. Figures from the Central Statistical Office showed a 0.5 per cent drop in output in October, but the 3 months from August to October showed a 1 per cent gain on the previous 3 months and a 1.7 per cent rise on 1982. The 3-monthly rise was due mainly to record oil and gas production, up 6.4 per cent in the period, while manufacturing industry showed no change, the office said.

### IDB approves \$107 million in loans

JEDDAH (OPECNA) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has approved \$107 million in loans and special assistance to member countries. Five crude oil import deals in Bangladesh, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan and Turkey have each been allocated \$20 million. The bank also agreed to lend \$5 million to Cameroon for a water supply project and \$1.3 million to Pakistan for a school run by its embassy in Riyadh. A \$700,000 grant was approved for the Al-Makassed Islamic Charitable Society in Jerusalem.

### Iran to abide by OPEC quota

TEHRAN (R) — Iran will not produce more oil than its OPEC-agreed quota of 2.4 million barrels per day (b/d) despite previous hints that it would, Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi said Tuesday.

### M.E. to get British drinking water

NEWCASTLE, England (R) — A northeast England water authority said Tuesday that it plans to start drinking water to the Middle East. Gulf states, where seawater for desalination has been polluted by oil spills during the Iran-Iraq war, will be a major market, a spokesman for the Northumbria Water Authority said. An £80,000 (\$12,000) pipeline has been built to pump the water from a reservoir in hills near the Scottish border to tankers in a deep berth dock.

### GIC to discuss joint ventures

MANAMA (OPECNA) — The Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) is to meet in Bahrain on Dec. 21 to discuss the organizational structure of joint ventures. Mr. Ibrahim Abdul Karim, Bahraini minister of finance and economy, said Tuesday. Mr. Karim said the two-day meeting would also map out a strategy, including short and long-term plans for regional investment schemes. The corporation, with a capital of \$2.1 billion was set up to diversify the regional economy. He said the corporation was mainly concerned with joint projects and some of its schemes were under study.

### Saudis install 200,000 telephones

RIYADH (OPECNA) — The minister of posts, telephones and telegraphs, Mr. Alawi Darwish Kayyal, announced here the installation of 200,000 telephones. Mr. Kayyal said Saudi Arabia had also set up 30,000 telex lines and 15,000 kilometre microwave network with a 50,000 circuit capacity and 3 international satellite stations, together with 2 colour television channels. He said an earth axial cable and a microwave network were set up to link the kingdom with neighbouring countries, adding that his country was also "playing a vital role" in a 15,000 kilometre marine cable project to connect Southeast Asian countries with Western Europe via the Middle East.

### GCC seeks talks with E.C.

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia and its 5 allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council wants talks with the European Community (E.C.) on the sale of petrochemicals and other commodities. Saudi Industry Minister Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Zamel said. Mr. Zamel told reporters after a two-day meeting of council industry ministers that they wanted equal taxation treatment, noting that E.C. exports to Gulf states generally were tax free. The council groups Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman. Mr. Zamel did not give a possible date for talks with the E.C.

## Paris hopes to lift trade with Belgrade

PARIS (R) — France hopes to boost its trading and political links with Yugoslavia during a 3 day visit by President Francois Mitterrand starting Thursday.

Mr. Mitterrand's spokesman Mr. Michel Vauzelle said France wanted to encourage Yugoslavia in its independent role between East and West and to explore possibilities for expanding commercial and cultural ties.

The French president's visit is the first such high-level exchange between the two countries since Mr. Valery Giscard d'Estaing went to Yugoslavia in 1976 and the late president Tito came to France the following year.

Mr. Mitterrand will be accompanied by External Relations

Minister Claude Cheysson. Foreign Trade Minister Edith Cresson. Finance Minister Jacques Delors and Transport Minister Charles Fiterman, one of four communist ministers in the government.

Mr. Vauzelle and other French officials said Mr. Mitterrand intends to exchange views with Yugoslav leaders on East-West relations, the Middle East and the European disarmament conference opening in Stockholm next month.

France joined other Western

countries and the International Monetary Fund in giving Yugoslavia aid to overcome its severe financial problems this year.

Mr. Mitterrand's talks in Belgrade will probably deal with the prospects for similar multilateral aid in 1984, and also with Yugoslavia's hopes to expand exports to the European Community.

France is Yugoslavia's fourth Western trade partner behind West Germany, the United States and Italy, but would like to improve its position.

During Mr. Mitterrand's visit the French will be sounding out the chances of selling the European Airbus to Yugoslavia and exporting railway technology and nuclear power stations.

After two days of talks in Belgrade, Mr. Mitterrand will travel by overnight train to the Slovenian capital of Ljubljana. He returns to Paris on Saturday afternoon.

French inflation slows  
Meanwhile, signs that inflation

in France, currently double that of its major trading competitors, is slowing down "were welcomed Wednesday by the French finance ministry."

Provisional figures released by the National Statistics Institute (Insee) put the increase in retail prices in November at between 0.4 and 0.5 per cent — nearly half the 0.8 per cent rise in both September and October.

Commenting on the figures the finance ministry said: "This is in line with the slow-down expected at the end of the year."

In the 6 months to November retail price inflation at 4.1 per cent is the lowest for 11 years, excluding government imposed price freezes.

The government is pledged to halve France's inflation rate, now around 10 per cent, by the end of next year.

Tuesday it announced the first in a series of agreements with firms limiting price increases to 4 to 5 per cent in 1984.

## Soviet industrial output grows 4.1%

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet industrial production rose by 4.1 per cent during the first 11 months of this year, putting the country on course for the best annual growth rate for 5 years.

According to a report released by the Central Statistics Board Wednesday, almost all industries were ahead of their output targets in the period from January to November and the gas industry registered a particularly sharp increase.

The 4.1 per cent growth rate indicated that Soviet industry should achieve an annual figure for 1983 of at least 4 per cent, the best since 1978.

However, some Western economic experts have said the figure will be artificially inflated by internal price rises over the past year.

Informed Soviet sources also said that in real terms the growth rate was lower, and probably a little over 2 per cent.

Wednesday's figures showed that Soviet oil output totalled 565 million tonnes during the January-November period, an increase of 0.8 per cent over the same period last year.

However, oil production in

month running.

The report put the monthly output figure at 50 million tonnes, which was 1 million tonnes less than in November 1982.

Last month's economic survey said oil production had failed to reach the official target in October.

Western economic attaches said the apparent slowdown could indicate increasing difficulties in obtaining oil from some of the countries older wells.

But they added that it might also mean Moscow had cut back production because of the slack demand on the world oil market.

Wednesday's report said gas output reached 487 billion cubic metres in the January-November period, an increase of 7 per cent compared with the same period last year.

It also indicated continuing difficulties in the troubled Soviet coal industry, with production falling below last year's levels.

Coal output has been stagnating or in decline for the past 4 years.

The report showed that some key consumer goods industries had failed to reach last year's output levels and said agricultural equipment factories had not fulfilled their delivery obligations.

## Venezuelan oil production drops

CARACAS (OPECNA) — Venezuela produced 1.8 million b/d of crude oil from January to October, an average daily drop of 8,000 barrels over the same period in 1982, an energy and mines ministry report said Tuesday.

Exports during the period rose to 1.49 million b/d, up 18,000 barrels over 1982, with crude accounting for 998,000 barrels and refined products 511,000 barrels.

Daily domestic consumption from January to September was 386,000 barrels, 347,000 of them utilised by industrial and non-commercial consumers and the rest by the petroleum industry.

Meanwhile, Venezuela's Corpoven Oil Company has adopted a plan that would enable it to react rapidly to the dynamics of the oil market and avoid unforeseen problems, its strategic Planning Manager Mariella De Gallardo said here.

Mr. De Gallardo said the system would provide scientific information necessary in evaluating the country's oil demand and supply.

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed easier Wednesday on lack of interest with insurances active following the increased bids for Eagle Star holdings, dealers said. At 1500 hours the F.T. index was down 0.7 at 749.9.

Allianz Versicherung's increased offer of 665p for Eagle Star was topped by a fresh bid of 675p by Bat Industries. Alliant said it maintains a committed interest in the matter which prompted a rally in Eagle Star which closed 2p off at 717 after a low of 699. Other insurances eased.

Government bonds were little changed on balance as sterling rallied slightly and North Americans eased.

BOC moved against the general trend, adding 12p at 276 in response to U.S. demand in a market short of stock, dealers said. Others to firm included Beecham 7p up at 318 and ICI 4p higher at 654. GEC was 5p lower at 173.

Banks gained between 2p and 5p in reaction to Tuesday's falls. Oils were dull but B.P., Shell and Brioil rallied to close little changed following news that the state owned British North Sea Oil Corp. proposes not to change its North Sea crude oil price in the first quarter of 1984.

Gulf shares eased in slack trading, dealers said.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4157/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2506/09	Canadian dollars
	2.7675/85	West German marks
	3.1065/75	Dutch guilders
	2.2135/45	Swiss francs
	56.22/26	Belgian francs
	8.46/03/0	French francs
	1675.00/1676.00	Italian lire
	235.73/83	Japanese yen
	8.1100/30/0	Swedish crowns
	7.7910/30	Norwegian crowns
	10.0200/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	389.50/390.00	U.S. dollars

## THE BETTER HALF

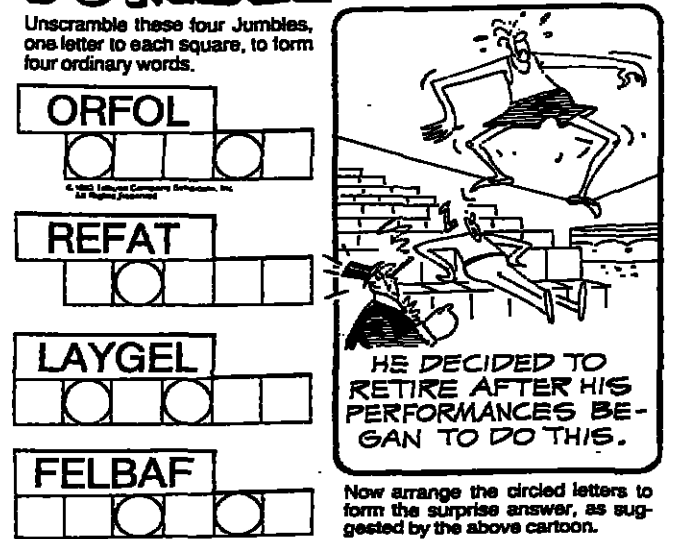
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"Stanley doesn't live life in the fast lane. He doesn't even live in the slow lane. He lives somewhere off in the ditch!"

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Yesterday's Jumbles: HUMID GLAND TALKER HICUP  
Answer: The goat ate an electric bulb because all he wanted was this—A LIGHT LUNCH

## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Put into effect new plans and courses of action, and investigate facets of ideas and policies that you do not understand. Get into the nitty-gritty of plans this evening.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get yourself looking more charming in the morning, then handle personal matters. Improve important money matters.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan to go after your goals quietly. Show you can keep secrets. Make an appointment early for some romantic interlude. Bring flowers.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Consult with friends who understand your position. Relax with your mate later. Work on personal matters secretly.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be speedy with tasks in the morning, but be casual with personal matters. Spend time with friends who understand your sensitivity.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get those ideas in motion and fit them into your career plans. Know what is expected of you from the influential and try to please them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are able to deal more harmoniously with those in business and set a new pace. Find better ways of self expression.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Ideal morning to have talks with partners, then get busy on details. Don't let home affairs upset you this evening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Find a better system for doing your work in the morning. Be sure to understand what a co-worker wants of you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan for future recreation and get busy at the work ahead of you. Find happiness in the company of your mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Clear up home conditions nicely and then you can have the amusements you desire. Perfect a talent. Arrive on time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get important letter in the mail early in the day. Handle home affairs with care. Entertain casually with family friends.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Handle financial affairs more intelligently in the morning. Make calls and visits later. Get reports out before quitting time.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be someone who is broad-minded and pioneering in nature so encourage this ability. In adulthood, your progeny can use this knowledge to think and act positively. Education should be based on the practical. Gentle discipline is best.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to get into your long-range plans that require thrift, careful building up of your assets, and doing business with the law. Don't allow yourself to become inconsiderate or sarcastic.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study your property and other assets carefully and improve them wisely. Permit your mate to express own views which could be helpful.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You find a better way of gaining your desires. Don't let a jealous partner interfere. Use self control. Plan a trip.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Rid yourself of obligations and handle those secret activities wisely. Use tact with your mate to avoid a battle. Show your loyalty.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Consider which friends will help you with your ideas. Straighten out annoying home situation diplomatically.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Handle credit and career matters wisely and get rid of problems. Answer messages quickly, and keep out of trouble.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Use advanced ways of operating to gain your aims and get good results. Don't let your responsibilities depress you. Show character.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Discuss deals with business persons. Then pay attention to personal matters. Assert yourself. Avoid the person who makes you feel depleted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You will succeed at working in harmony with one who is as stubborn as you. Be more objective.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Persevere at your regular job and benefit in the future. Stay away from friends for a while. Stick to whatever is practical.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan for recreation in the days ahead with your precious mate. Use patience in handling outside matters of a practical nature.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Showing that you are prejudiced at home could cause a big argument, so be understanding. Take time for recreation.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Listening to ideas of associates can lead to more harmony and benefits. Concentrate on home improvement.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be someone who will have much ability at whatever is of a practical nature, so start education towards business. This is someone who feels the need of a mate early in life, but be sure it is a selfish one. Teach the birds and bees early.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!



# Kissinger likes Contadora plan

MEXICO CITY (R) — Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said a peace plan for Central America by the Contadora group of states was consistent with U.S. objectives and voiced hope for peace in the volatile region.

Speaking at a press conference after talks with President Miguel de la Madrid, Dr. Kissinger, who heads President Reagan's special commission on Central America, said foreign intervention in the region was a general threat.

"I can safely say that we support the Contadora process, that the 21 objectives that have been formulated seem to us consistent with U.S. objectives, or what should be the objectives of the United States," Dr. Kissinger said.

The Contadora group of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama has drafted a 21-point peace plan whose key provisions include withdrawal of foreign military advisers from Central America and an end to support for rebels.

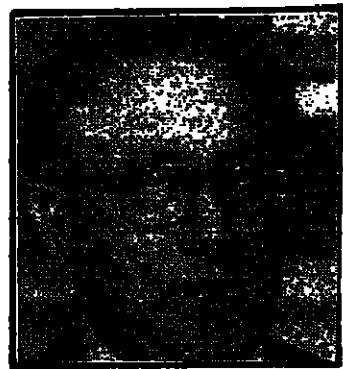
Dr. Kissinger said there were two problems in Central America.

"There are upheavals, instabilities, caused by indigenous conditions that are conducted by local forces with local means and should not concern the United States."

"There is a second element which is of outside intervention. That I believe represents a general threat."

But Dr. Kissinger said there was hope for peace in Central America and added that he was more optimistic than when he took over the chairmanship of the commission.

"I believe now that if the United



Henry Kissinger

States makes the necessary economic commitment, and a commitment to democracy and if Contadora countries together with the United States ... develop a forward-looking programme then there is hope for peace in Central America," he added.

Charged with drafting long-term U.S. policy recommendations for the region, the commission earlier met Foreign

Minister Bernardo Sepulveda for talks on peace negotiations by the Contadora group, foreign ministry officials said.

The U.S. backs guerrillas opposed to Nicaragua's left-wing government and is aiding an anti-Marxist counter-insurgency in El Salvador.

Meanwhile, over 100 U.S.-backed rebels have surrendered to Nicaraguan authorities, accepting an amnesty from the Sandinist government, a member of the ruling junta said Tuesday.

Victor Tirado said the rebels, presented to reporters in the city of Esteli, had been operating from Honduras.

In another development, former world boxing champion Alexis Arguello, an anti-Sandinist activist, told reporters in Honduras that the Costa-Rican based Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) would soon launch military action in northern Nicaragua.

# Argentina to put former junta members on trial

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's newly elected democratic government announced Tuesday night that all members of the military juntas which ruled from 1976 until last year are to go on trial.

President Raul Alfonsín said in a televised speech that the government was repealing an amnesty issued by military rulers for officers accused of violating human rights during the ruthless anti-guerrilla drive by the armed forces in the 1970s and would put offenders on trial.

Three military leaders who took power in June last year pledging to restore democracy were not on the list of those to be tried.

The three — navy commander Ruben Franco, air force chief Jorge Hughes and army commander Cristino Nicolaides — dissolved their junta last week, delegating full powers to then President Reynaldo Bignone before Mr. Alfonsín was sworn in on Saturday.

Those names in the decree were generals Jorge Videla and Orlando Agosti, Adm. Eduardo Massera, general Roberto Viola and Omar Graña, Adm. Armando Lambruschini and general Leopoldo Galtieri and Basilio Lami Dozo and Adm. Jorge Anaya.

Government sources said leaders of the Montonero guerrilla movement now in exile would also be tried.

The new president said he would immediately ask congress to repeal the amnesty issued by the previous military government



Raul Alfonsín

for all members of the armed forces and their civilian collaborators.

Between 6,000 and 30,000 people are estimated to have disappeared during the military's "dirty war" against the guerrillas.

Mr. Alfonsín said repeal of the amnesty law would allow all those responsible for abuses of human rights to be brought to trial and punished.

But he made clear that the government would distinguish between those who planned and supervised the illegal methods of repression, those who exceeded their orders for reasons of cruelty, perversity or greed, and those who simply followed orders, believing them to be legitimate. The first two categories would be punished most heavily, he said.

# Priest survives air crash after baptising 3 French survivors

MADRID (R) — Three members of a French family who survived a Boeing 747 crash at Madrid Airport two weeks ago were baptised by a Roman Catholic priest who escaped from a second crash 10 days later.

French policeman Patrick Neger, his wife Elisabeth, daughter Katy and son Ludovic were among 12 survivors. The rest of the 193 people on board the Colombian airliner were killed when

it crashed as it approached the airport on Nov. 27.

Patrick, 29, Elisabeth, 26, and Katy, three, were baptised in a Madrid clinic by Carlos Giacomuzzi, an Italian priest who escaped unharmed last Wednesday when two Spanish airlines collided at Madrid Airport, killing 93 people, a hospital spokesman said.

Mr. Neger said after the accident that God had saved him.

# Jane's says Soviets have biggest military plane in world

LONDON (R) — The Soviet Union has developed a giant military transport plane that can lift 55-20 nuclear missiles, an authoritative Jane's reference book said Tuesday.

The prototype four-engine Antonov-100 plane, codenamed Condor by NATO, is the largest aircraft flying in the world now, according to Jane's All The World's Aircraft 1983-84.

Jane's said the Antonov-100 could carry tanks or 200 fully-equipped troops and could just as easily lift SS-20 nuclear-range missiles and their mobile launch vehicles quickly to Eastern Europe or even to an island like Grenada.

Jane's said the new plane, likely to go into service in the mid-or late 1980s, had a 74-metre wing span, a range of 4,600 kilometres and was five per cent bigger than the U.S. C-5 Galaxy transport.

However, it is not the biggest plane ever to fly. American billionaire Howard Hughes built a wooden flying boat called the "Spruce Goose" with a wing span of 98 metres that made one brief flight in 1947.

The Condor is one of a new generation of Soviet military aircraft detailed in the 74th edition of Jane's.

Another is the "Blackjack" intercontinental strategic bomber, described as much bigger and faster than the new B-1 bomber that will equip the U.S. air force later this decade.

There are also new fighters and strike planes like the MiG-31 Foxhound, which Jane's says represents a major advance over the MiG-25 Foxbat now in service, and the MiG-29 Fulcrum, likely to have a dual fighter and ground attack role.

Jane's said three new fighters a day were currently rolling off Soviet assembly lines, far surpassing NATO production.

# Dissident Soviet announcer 'cured'

MOSCOW (R) — A radio Moscow announcer who, in news bulletins last May, praised Afghans for fighting against "Soviet invaders", has been reinstated at the station, a spokesman said Wednesday.

He told Reuters that Vladimir Danchev, who was dismissed and sent to a psychiatric clinic after his "dissident" broadcasts, had been given a new post at the English-language Radio Moscow world service.

"He was ill, but now he has been cured," the spokesman said.

In a series of news bulletins on the world service, Mr. Danchev switched around the normal Soviet jargon for covering the Afghan

conflict and branded Soviet troops as aggressors.

In one broadcast he said the Afghan population was "playing an increasing role in defending the country's territory against Soviet occupiers" and in another praised tribes in two provinces for their "struggle against the Soviet invaders."

Mr. Danchev's broadcasts were the first known public protest here against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan since Moscow's military intervention in 1979.

The Radio Moscow spokesman did not say what post Mr. Danchev now occupied, but informed sources said he was restricted to editorial work and not permitted near

a microphone.

His mild treatment contrasted sharply with the usual Soviet attitude towards dissidents, who are rarely allowed to occupy senior positions once they have denounced state policy.

Neither the radio authorities nor listeners in Moscow noticed Mr. Danchev's critical broadcasts until they were made public by the British Broadcasting Corporation's monitoring service.

Sources at the radio said Mr. Danchev, the son of a senior Communist Party official, was sent back to his native Tashkent in Central Asia and put into a clinic for treatment.

# Glenn offends N.Y. gays

NEW YORK (R) — Eight gay rights leaders stormed out of a meeting with Democratic presidential contender John Glenn Tuesday after he refused to support moves to extend federal civil rights legislation to include homosexuals.

The meeting came after Mr. Glenn told a press conference he thought homosexuals might not be fit for certain jobs, including teaching, the military and spying.

Mr. Glenn, asked at the news conference when he realised he was "straight" (heterosexual), answered: "I never made a choice. I always presumed I was not gay and lived my life accordingly."

The former astronaut, now a senator, is the only one of the eight Democratic contenders for the U.S. presidency who does not favour extending civil rights laws to forbid discrimination based on sexual preference.

The issue dominated Mr. Glenn's latest foray into New York.

His local campaign chairman, Manfred Ohrenstein, a state senator representing Greenwich Village which has a large homosexual population, declined to make a public appearance with him.

Mr. Ohrenstein is under great

# Cold keeps Walesa away from the law

WARSAW (R) — Nobel Peace Prize winner Lech Walesa, who was summoned to appear before the public prosecutor in Gdansk Wednesday, is suffering from a heavy cold and was unable to leave his home Wednesday morning, an aide said.

Mr. Walesa stayed in bed with a temperature of 38.4 centigrade and was unable to go to work at the Lenin shipyard in the Baltic Port where he works as an electrician, the aide reported.

The family was waiting for a doctor to examine the leader of the banned Solidarity union. The aide said he did not know whether Mr. Walesa would be able to answer the summons at 4 p.m.

# Pakistani court acquits blind girl in rape case

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's highest Islamic tribunal has acquitted a blind teenage girl whose earlier sentence to 15 lashes for adultery sparked off a controversy about women's rights here, a government spokesman said Wednesday.

Hearing the case on appeal, the federal shariat court dropped adultery charges against Safia Begum, a maid who said she was raped by a father and son who employed her in a village south of the Punjab capital of Lahore, he said.

The case, tried under traditional

Islamic laws introduced by martial law President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, sparked off a controversy in Pakistan because the two men were let off for lack of evidence.

The local court trying the case took the fact that Safia Begum bore a child — who later died — as proof of her part in the act and sentenced her to 15 lashes and three years in jail.

The spokesman said the federal shariat court had not yet made public its legal arguments for reversing the lower courts decision.

# Fire reported on Columbia

HOUSTON (R) — A rear compartment of the space shuttle Columbia was on fire as the spacecraft landed last Thursday and two small explosions occurred on board shortly after touchdown, space agency officials said.

But they said the fire posed no danger to the crew.

Officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) said they were not aware of the fire as the shuttle glided on to a desert runway at Edwards Air Force Base, California, with six crewmen and the billion dollar European space lab research laboratory on board.

The fire occurred about two minutes before touchdown in two of the shuttle's three auxiliary power units.

"There were no direct indications of a fire at the time of landing," a NASA statement said. "The six-man crew was unaffected and in no danger."

NASA said the fire was apparently caused by a leak of liquid hydrazine fuel which is burned in the power units.

# 3 Korean rapists to be executed

SEOUL (R) — Calling three condemned young men "non-humans," the South Korean Supreme Court has confirmed death sentences passed on them for 21 rape and robbery offences, court officials said Wednesday.

Hwang In-Kyu, 24; Choi Yun-Song, 24, and Choi Song-Hun, 20, were convicted of teaming up to rob houses and rape students and other women there in front of their relatives on 21 occasions between September and December last year.

The court was told that one rape victim and her mother were driven insane after being attacked and that the incidents had also led to the breakup of some marriages.

"Their act defies description in its ferocity and heinousness. Such non-humans should be thoroughly exterminated in order to protect the home and society from infinite

# THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

OUTMANNED  
By Peter G. Snow

Edited by Herb Ettemson

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